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H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 IO-10 AID-05 ACDA-05 MC-02 NIC-01 /092 W

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R 261030Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3041

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC/HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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USIA FOR IBS/NCA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, MILI, VS

SUBJECT: VIET-NAM CEASE-FIRE WEEKLY ASSESSMENT

PART I --SUMMARY

A. COUNTRY WIDE THE LEVEL OF ACTIVITY WAS SOMEWHAT HIGHER THAN A WEEK AGO, ALTHOUGH OVER-ALL IT WAS AT A RELATIVELY MODERATE LEVEL. THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS, AS WELL AS THE NUMBER OF GVN AND NVA/VC KILLED IN ACTION BASED ON INITIAL BATTLEFIELD REPORTS ALL ROSE ABOUT 25 PER CENT. BINH DINH PROVINCE IN MR-3 AND MR-3 GENERALLY, SHOWED A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE, WITH SAPPER ACTIVITY AROUND SAIGON AGAIN BEING A COMMUNIST FOCUS IN THE LATTER AREA. THE NVA TROOP BUILD-UP IN TAY NINH PROVINCE ALSO CONTINUED IN MR-3.

B. THERE WAS NO SERIOUS FIGHTING NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS IN MR-1, WITH FIGHTING SOUTH OF THE PASS AGAIN OCCURRING AT A MODERATE LEVEL. THE ARVN CLEARING OPERATION IN QUANG NGAI, WHOSE AIM IS TO RETAKE THE HILLS SOUTH OF QUANG NGAI CITY, IS STILL BEING PURSUED.

C. BINH DINH PROVINCE IN MR-2 SHOWED A MARKED INCREASE IN FIGHTING, BUT THE REGION AS A WHOLE WAS RELATIVELY QUIET. GVN INTELLIGENCE IS NOW EXPECTING COMMUNIST MAIN FORCE ATTACKS IN KONTUM AND PLEIKU WAS AGAIN VNAF AIR ATTACKS AGAINST COMMUNIST TRUCK CONVOYS. THE GVN REPORTS OVER 100 TRUCKS DESTROYED IN KONTUM, AND 36 IN PLEIKU. GVN LLRI TEAMS HAVE STILL NOT PIN-POINTED THE 968TH, 320TH, AND "VINH KHANG" IN NVA REGIMENTS STILL BELIEVED TO BE IN PLEIKU, DARLAC, AND BIN THUAN.

D. THE TET LULL HAS CLEARLY ENDED IN MR-3, WHERE ACTIVITY INCREASED ABOUT 50 PER CENT THIS WEEK. THE EMPHASIS, HOWEVER, WAS ONCE AGAIN MARKED SAPPER ACTIVITY, PARTICULARLY AROUND SAIGON, AND COMMUNIST SHELLING OF GVN POSITIONS IN THE TAY NINH CITY AREA. NVA TROOP BUILD-UPS ALSO CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE AREA, EXPECIALLY IN TAY NINH PROVINCE.

E. FIGHTING IN THE DELTA WAS AT ITS LOWEST EBB SINCE LATE NOVEMBER. GVN UNITS WERE AGAIN CARRYING INITIATIVE IN ORDER TO KEEP THE
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COMMUNISTS OFF BALANCE. THE AIM OF THIS TACTIC IS TO TRY AND CONTAIN A MARKED INCREASE IN FUTURE FIGHTING. IN THE NORTHERN DELTA IT IS ESPECIALLY WORTH NOTING THAT A LARGE PART OF THE POPULACE OF MOC HOA HAS NOW RETURNED BECAUSE IT HAS GAINED INCREASED CONFIDENCE IN THE GVN'S ABILITY TO RESIST THE ANNOUNCED COMMUNIST INTENTION TO TAKE MOC HOA.

PART II --ICCS.

A. THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN AMBASSADORS DEPARTED SAIGON FOR A VISIT OSTENSIBLY TO VIENTIANE, BUT ACTUALLY TO HANOI. VC SAPPERS BLEW UP A BUILDING IN THE ICCS COMPOUND AT MY THO, KILLING ONE PA & E VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEE. THE RVN DELEGATION REQUESTED AN INVESTIGATION, BUT THE HUNGARIANS AND POLES STIPULATED THAT THEY MUST HAVE SECURITY GUARANTEES AND LIAISON OFFICERS FROM BOTH PARTIES. MEANWHILE, THE "PRG" ACCUSED THE GVN OF SETTING OFF THE EXPLOSIVE CHARGE IN THE MY THO COMPOUND (WHICH WOULD HAVE MEANT KILLING ONE OF ITS OWN CITIZENS). THE EMBASSY HAS URGED THE INDONESIAN AND IRANIAN DELEGATIONS TO SUBMIT SOME SORT OF PUBLISHABLE REPORT TO THE TPJMC ON THE INCIDENT.

B. THE ICCS AND PA & E HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT AD REFERENDUM ON THE NEW CONTRACT FOR GENERAL SERVICES.

PART III - FPJMT, TPJMC AND RELATED MATTERS.

THE DRV/"PRG" BOYCOTT OF THE FPJMT AND TPJMC CONTINUED INTO ITS THIRTY-SIXTH WEEK. ON FEBRUARY 26 THE USDEL FPJMT DELIVERED TO THE COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS 13 NEW FOLDERS ON 20 INDIVIDUALS SEEKING INFORMATION ON THESE MIA/BNR US PERSONNEL. TEN FOLDERS ON 17 INDIVIDUALS WERE DELIVERED TO THE DRVDEL, AND 3 FOLDERS ON 3 PERSONS TO THE "PRG"DEL.

PART IV --COMMUNIST MEDIA COMMENT

THE "PRG" EVOLVES A NEW NUMBER.

APPARENTLY BASING ITS COMPUTATION ON WASHINGTON ANNOUNCEMENTS FEBRUARY 7 THAT SOME SEVENTEEN USAF TECHNICIANS HAD BEEN SENT TO SAIGON, THE "PRG" FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS REVISED ITS PUBLIC ESTIMATE CONFIDENTIAL

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OF "DISGUISED" US MILITARY PERSONNEL IN SOUTH VIET-NAM. A "PRG" FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT OF FEBRUARY 6 USED THE TRADITIONAL FIGURE OF "AS MANY AS 25,000," BUT A FEBRUARY 21 STATEMENT FROM THE SAME SOURCE REPORTED THAT "IN EARLY FEBRUARY, THE FORD ADMINISTRATION DISPATCHED HUNDREDS OF ADDITIONAL US AIR FORCE PERSONNEL TO SOUTH VIET-NAM, THUS INCREASING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF US MILITARY PERSONNEL DISGUISED AS CIVILIANS TO MORE THAN 26,000."

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R 261030Z FEB 75

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CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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PART V - MR I

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

I CORPS HQS BRIEFED 188 CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS, AN INCREASE FROM LAST WEEK'S 97. THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT FIGHTING NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS FIGHTING CONTINUED AT A MODERATE LEVEL. DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD GVN CASUALTIES WERE 97 KIA, 474 WIA, 0 MIA. NVA/VC LOSSES WERE 244 KIA, 24 CAPTURED, AND 6 RETURNEES. A TOTAL OF 102 COMBAT AIR SORTIES WERE FLOWN.

2. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

QUANG TRI (P) WAS QUIET EXCEPT FOR A FEW SCATTERED CONTACTS ON THE WESTERN FLANK OF THE MARINE DIVISION. IN THUA THIEN (P), NO SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS WERE REPORTED. FIGHTING WAS LIMITED TO A NUMBER OF SMALL CONTACTS SOUTH OF MO TAU MT AND SOUTHWEST OF BONG MT.

3. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

IN QUANG NAM (P), FIGHTING REMAINED AT A MODERATE LEVEL AS NVA/VC UNITS HARASSED RVNAF IN THE VICINITY OF DAI LOC, DUC DUC, AND HILL 52. QUANG TIN (P) WAS QUIET WITH THE EXCEPTION OF NVA/VC PROBING ACTIONS IN THE VICINITY OF TIEN PHUOC (D) AND TAM KY CITY. IN QUANG NGAI (P), THE 2D INFANTRY DIVISION OPERATION "QUYET THANG A/1/75", ATTEMPTING TO RECAPTURE AND CONTROL THE HILLS SOUTH OF QUANG NGAI CITY CONTINUED INCONCLUSIVELY.

4. ICCS:

IN ICCS REGION I, NO OBSERVATIONS OR INVESTIGATIONS WERE REPORTED. IN REGION II, ON FEB 21 THE INDONESIANS CONDUCTED AN OBSERVATION OF A FEB 20 NVA/VC ATTACK ON A PF PLATOON IN DIEN BAN DISTRICT, QUANG NAM PROVINCE.

PART VI - MR II

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1. SUMMARY: THE REGION REMAINED RELATIVELY QUIET, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS A NOTABLE PICK-UP OF MILITARY ACTIVITY IN BINH DINH. THE LARGEST CONTACT IN BINH DINH OCCURRED IN TAM QUAN, WHERE ELEMENTS OF THE 41ST ARVN REGT KILLED 11 COMMUNISTS ON FEB 18. THE COMMUNISTS ROCKETED THE AIRBASE AND DESTROYED A VILLAGE OFFICE IN PHU CAT DISTRICT. OTHER, SMALLER GROUND CONTACTS, ABF'S, AND VC TERRORIST ATTACKS TOOK PLACE THROUGHOUT BINH DINH. THE LULL IN BATTLEFIELD CONTACTS IN KONTUM AND PLEIKU WAS PUNCTUATED

BY VNAF AIRSTRIKES AGAINST COMMUNIST CONVOYS; THESE AIRSTRIKES REPORTEDLY DESTROYED WELL OVER 100 COMMUNIST TRUCKS. DESPITE THE EFFORTS OF ITS RECON TEAMS, THE GVN HAS BEEN UNABLE TO FIX THE POSITIONS OF THE 968TH, 320TH, AND "VINH KHANG" NVA REGTS, WHICH ARE STILL REPORTED TO BE IN PLEIKU, DARLAC, AND BINH THUAN, RESPECTIVELY. GVN MILITARY SUPPLY VEHICLES TRAVELLING FROM KHANH HOA TO DARLAC ON QL-21 WERE AMBUSHED ON FEB 19 AND 20.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

FEBRUARY 17-23, 1975

I. COMMUNIST-INITIATED INCIDENTS:

	TOTAL INCIDENTS	HIGHLAND	COASTAL ZONE
LAST WEEK:	28	47 PERCENT	53 PERCENT
THIS WEEK:	35	17 PERCENT	83 PERCENT

BINH DINH WAS THE MOST ACTIVE PROVINCE WITH 26 INCIDENTS

II. GVN-INITIATED INCIDENTS:

LAST WEEK: 38 GROUND CONTACTS
THIS WEEK: 53 GROUND CONTACTS

III. COMMUNIST PERSONNEL AND WEAPONS LOSSES:

	PERSONNEL			WEAPONS		
	KIA	CIA	RETURNEE	CS	INDV	TOTAL WPNS
LAST WEEK:	116	01	00	06	24	30
THIS WEEK:	172	01	04	08	43	51

IV. GVN PERSONNEL AND WEAPONS LOSSES

	KIA	CIA	MIA	CS	INDV	TOTAL WPNS
LAST WEEK:	26	40	04	00	04	04
THIS WEEK:	32	93	01	03	43	46

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TPLIZATION (ROUNDS)

	105	155	175	TOTAL
LAST WEEK:	6,464	726	133	7,505
THIS WEEK:	6,520	627	36	7,183

VI. GVN AIR OPERATIONS (SORTIES)

	TAC AIR	VR	HELICOPTER
LAST WEEK:	212	168	783
THIS WEEK:	170	178	785

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R 261030Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3043

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

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AMCONSUL DANANG

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

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2. BINH DINH: THE LEVEL OF MILITARY ACTIVITY INCREASED. THE LARGEST CONTACT OCCURRED ON SEBHWUN NEAR TAM U DISTRICT TOWN, WHERE THE 2ND AND 3RD COMPANIES OF THE 3RD BN/41ST ARVN REGT SUPPORTED BY THE 3RD/14TH ARMORED CAV. GROUP ENGAGED A COMMUNIST FORCE. THE ARVN TOOK 5 WIA, BUT REPORTEDLY KILLED 11 COMMUNISTS AND SEIZED SEVERAL WEAPONS IN THIS CLASH. ELSEWHERE IN TAM QUAN DISTRICT*, 3.3.5 9* 5#3 921ST CQSGROUP-WHICH HAS HAD CONSIDERABLE OPERATIONAL SUCCESS SINCE ITS ARRIVAL FROM AN TUC DISTRICT IN LATE JANUARY-KILLED 8 VC IN SMALL UNIT CONTACTS. IN PHU CAT DISTRICT, COMMUNIST ACTIVITY WAS AT ITS HIGHEST POINT IN THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS. ON FEB 18 AND 19, THREE DIFFERENT PF UNITS GUARDING THE OUTER DEFENSES OF PHU CAT AIRBASE RECEIVED MORTAR AND GROUND ATTACKS, RESULTING IN A TOTAL OF 4 GVN TROOPS KIA AND 5 WIA AS AGAINST 8 COMMUNIST KIA; ON FEB 18 THE AIRBASE ITSELF TOOK FOUR 107MM ROCKETS FROM THE NORTHWEST, SUSTAINING NO DAMAGE. IN ADDITION, THE CAT CHANH VILLAGE OFFICE, LOCATED IN PHU CAT DISTRICT TOWN, WAS ATTACKED BY THE VC ON FEB 19. PF AND POLICE FOUGHT OFF THE ATTACK, BUT THE POLICE CHIEF OF THE VILLAGE AND TWO OTHER DEFENDERS WERE KILLED AND THE OFFICE AND A NEARBY SCHOOL WERE HEAVILY DAMAGED. A SECOND MAJOR VC TERRORIST INCIDENT TOOK PLACE ON FEB 21 IN PHU MY DISTRICT, WHERE A VC THREW A HAND GRENADE INTO A MARKET IN MY HIEP VILLAGE, KILLING 8 CIVILIANS AND WOUNDING 33. OTHER, SMALLER GROUND CONTACTS, ABFS, AND VC TERRORIST ATTACKS (INCLUDING ASSASSINATIONS OF 2 GVN OFFICIALS IN A RESETTLEMENT SITE) OCCURRED THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE. GVN INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS NOW ANTICIPATE SIGNIFICANT COMMUNIST MAIN FORCE ATTACKS TO BEGIN AT THE END OF FEBRUARY; IT IS STILL EXPECTED THAT THE INTERDICTION OF QL-19 WILL BE AMONG THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVES OF THE COMMUNISTS.

3. KONTUM/ PLEIKU: COMMUNIST INITIATED MILITARY ACTION WAS LIMITED TO ATTACKS BY FIRE ON RANGER POSITIONS NORTHWEST AND NORTHEAST OF KONTUM CITY. NOTABLY, ON FEB 18, 11 KMS NORTHWEST OF THE CITY, THE 1ST CO OF THE 11TH RANGER BN TOOK 60 ROUNDS OF MORTAR AND RECOILLESS RIFLE, SUSTAINING ONE WIA. FOR ITS PART, THE GVN
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KNOCKED OUT ONE COMMUNIST TANK 17 KM NORTHWEST OF THE CITY WITH ARTILLERY FIRE, AND DIRECTED NUMEROUS AIR SORTIES AGAINST COMMUNIST CONVOYS. THE AIR SORTIES REPORTEDLY DESTROYED OVER 100 TRUCKS, MOST OF WHICH WERE PART OF A CONVOY SPOTTED 52 KMS WEST NORTHWEST OF KONTUM CITY. PLEIKU WAS QUIET. APART FROM SEVERAL SMALL INCIDENTS WEST OF QL-14, THE ONLY MILITARY ACTIONS OF NOTE WERE VNAF AIR STRIKES AT A COMMUNIST CONVOY 22 KMS NORTH NORTHWEST OF

PLEI DJERENG ON FEB 17. THESE STRIKES REPORTEDLY KNOCKED OUT 36 TRUCKS AND DAMAGED 7 OTHERS. MR-2 HQS BELIEVES THE COMMUNISTS ARE PREPARING TO ATTACK THE STRATEGIC CHU XANG RF OUTPOST (ZA 1256) NORTHWEST OF PLEIKU CITY. THE ENTIRE 45TH ARVN REGT HAS NOW MOVED TO THE PLEIKU/PHU BON/DARLAC TRI-BORDER AREA. DESPITE THE EFFORTS OF ITS RECON TEAMS, THE GVN HAS BEEN UNABLE TO FIX THE POSITIONS OF THE 968TH AND 320TH NVA REGTS, WHICH ARE STILL REPORTED TO BE IN PLEIKU AND DARLAC, RESPECTIVELY.

4. OTHER. THE ONLY SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT IN DARLAC THIS WEEK OCCURRED NEAR THE Krong Hnang (KM 62) RESETTLEMENT SITE (BQ 376180), A SITE FREQUENTLY HARASSED BY THE COMMUNISTS. ON FEB 24, THE 1ST CO OF THE 242ND RF BN AMBUSHED A COMMUNIST FORCE WHICH WAS ADVANCING ON THE RESETTLEMENT, KILLING 6 COMMUNISTS AND CAPTURING SEVERAL WEAPONS. GVN LONG RANGE PATROLS THROUGHOUT BINH THUAN HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO CONFIRM REPORTS THAT A NEW COMMUNIST REGIMENT (DUBBED THE "VINH KHANG" REGT) HAS ENTERED THE PROVINCE. GVN MILITARY SUPPLY VEHICLES TRAVELLING FROM KHANH HOA TO DARLAC ON QL-21 WERE AMBUSHED ON FEB 19 AND AGAIN ON FEB 20. THE ATTACKS--BOTH OF WHICH TOOK PLACE NEAR THE DOC CAO PASS 25 TO 30 KM WEST OF NINH HOA-- DESTROYED ONE VEHICLE, DAMAGED ANOTHER, AND WOUNDED ONE DRIVER.

5. ICCS: REPORTEDLY MG K. SUHUD AND BG B. SUMANTRI, CHIEF AND DEPUTY CHIEF, RESPECTIVELY, OF THE INDONESIAN DELEGATION, WILL VISIT THE PHU BON ICCS SITE ON FEB .

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CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CG FMFPAC
CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
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PART VII - MR III

QM FOLLOWING THE TET LULL, MILITARY ACTIVITY IN MR-3 ROSE SUBSTANTIALITY WITH SAPPER ACTIVITY REMAINING HIGHER THAN USUAL, ESPECIALLY IN THE ENVIRONS OF SAIGON. IN ANTICIPATION OF RENEWED HEAVY ATTACKS AND THE BEGINNING OF THE SECOND PHASE OF THE NVA DRY SEASON CAMPAIGN IN THIS REGION, EXPECTED SINCE TET, THE PERIOD WAS ONE OF WATCHFUL WAITING, AS THE NVA CONTINUED TROOP BUILDUPS AND PREPARATION OF THE BATTLEFIELDS, PARTICULARLY IN TAY NINH PROVINCE. THE MR-3 COMMANDER USED THIS TIME ALSO TO ADJUST HIS DEPLOYMENTS AND TO UNDERTAKE AGGRESSIVE PROBES AIMED AT LOCATING NVA CONCENTRATIONS AND PUTTING THE COMMUNIST FORCES OFF-BALANCE AS THEY PREPARE FOR THEIR HEAVY OFFENSIVE.

2. MR-3 HQS RECORDED 200 INCIDENTS THIS WEEK, A SHARP INCREASE FROM LAST WEEK'S 132. WHILE MILITARY ACTIVITY CONTINUED AT THE SAME LEVEL IN TAY NINH WITH 33 INCIDENTS (30 LAST WEEK), IN BINH DUONG INCIDENTS MORE THAN DOUBLED (24 TO 52). REGIONAL HQS REPORTED 33 GROUND CONTACTS, 96 ATTACKS BY FIRE, AND SIX COMBINED

GROUND AND ABF'S. THERE WERE 11 MININGS AND 54 OTHER INCIDENTS. ONE A-37 WAS LOST IN TAY NINH PROVINCE AND ONE UH-1 WAS SHOT DOWN IN LONG AN PROVINCE. A PBR SHIP WAS DESTROYED BY NVA/VC FIRE IN HAU NGHIA.

3. NVA/VC GUNNERS FIRED 913 MORTAR, 80 ROCKET, AND 231 ARTILLERY ROUNDS FOR A TOTAL OF 1,224 ABF ROUNDS. ARVN EXPENDED 12,757 ARTILLERY ROUNDS (8,586 LAST WEEK). VNAF FLEW 80 FIXED-WING SORTIES AND 307 HELICOPTER GUNSHIP MISSIONS.

4. GVN CASUALTIES WERE SET AT 82 KIA, 248 WIA, AND 19 MIA. NVA/VC LOSSES WERE REPORTED AS 98 KIA, THREE CIA, AND TWO RALLIERS. VNAF REPORTED AN ADDITIONAL 87 NVA/VC KILLED BY AIR.

5. DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD, BINH DUONG PROVINCE SHOWED THE GREATEST NUMBER OF INCIDENTS IN MR-3 AND A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE OVER RECENT WEEKS. WHILE THIS INCREASE REFLECTED AN UPSURGE IN NVA/VC ACTIONS, IT ALSO REFLECTS ARVN PROBES NORTHWARD ALONG ROUTE 13 TOWARD CHON THANH FROM LAI KHE. IN THESE OPERATIONS, CONFIDENTIAL

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5TH DIV UNITS CLASHED SEVERAL TIMES WITH NVA/VC FORCES AND RECEIVED SEVERAL ATTACKS BY FIRE. LAI KHE BASE, HEADQUARTERS OF THE 5TH DIV, RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 50 ROUNDS OF NVA/VC ROCKET AND ARTILLERY FIRE IN SEVEN SEPARATE ATTACKS BUT RECORDED NO DAMAGE OR CASUALTIES.

6. IN TAY NINH PROVINCE THE NVA/VC PATTERN OF SHELLING GVN OUT-POSTS IN AND AROUND THE PROVINCIAL CAPITAL CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE WEEK. TAY NINH CITY ON FEB 19 AND 20 RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 26 ROCKETS WHICH LEFT SIX DEAD (FOUR CIVILIANS) AND 12 WOUNDED (11 CIVILIANS). CASUALTIES AND DAMAGE FROM THE REMAINING ARTILLERY AND ROCKET ATTACKS WERE REPORTED AS MINIMAL. GROUND CONTACTS BETWEEN 25TH DIV SOLDIERS AND NVA/VC FORCES AROUND BA DEN MOUNTAIN ON FEB 24 RESULTED IN NINE NVA/VC KILLED WITH GVN CASUALTIES OF FIVE WOUNDED AND FOUR MISSING.

7. NVA/VC SAPPERS REMAINED ACTIVE DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD. ON FEB 19, IN THE MOST DARING ACTION, A SIZEABLE NVA/VC SAPPER UNIT ATTACKED AND DESTROYED AN NHON VILLAGE OFFICE AT 2230 HOURS ON THE NORTHERN EDGE OF SAIGON METROPOLITAN AREA LESS THAN THREE KMS FROM TAN SON NHUT AIR BASE. FIVE GVN PERSONNEL WERE KILLED, AND FOUR WERE WOUNDED. ONE SAPPER KIA WAS FOUND AT THE SPOT AND TWO OTHERS ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN CARRIED AWAY BY THE ATTACKERS. ON FEB 20 IN TAY NINH PROVINCE, NVA/VC SAPPERS DESTROYED A HAMLET OFFICE SEVEN KMS NORTHWEST OF KHIEM HANH DISTRICT TOWN KILLING TWO AND WOUNDING FOUR, INCLUDING THE HAMLET CHIEF. THIRTEEN PSDF WERE REPORTED MISSING. IN BINH DUONG PROVINCE, SAPPERS DESTROYED TWO BRIDGES; ONE IN PHU HOA DISTRICT ALONG LTL 15 ON FEB 19 AND ONE IN LAI THIEU DISTRICT ALONG OLD QL 13 ON FEB 20. THE BRIDGE

DEFENDERS HAD TWO KILLED, TWO WOUNDED AND ONE MISSING. ON FEB 20 TWO SAPPERS WERE KILLED IN AN EXPLOSION WHICH DESTROYED A FOOT-BRIDGE NEAR OLD QL 13 NORTH OF LAI THIEU. IN BIEN HOA ON FEB 24, A GRENADE EXPLODED IN BUU HOA POLICE STATION, SIX KMS NORTH OF DI AN, CAUSING MINOR DAMAGE.

8. RF TROOPS TOOK DISTURBING LOSSES IN TWO INCIDENTS IN PHUOC TUY AND LONG KHANH. IN PHUOC TUY ON FEB 20 REGIONAL FORCES EIGHT KMS EAST OF DAT DO DISTRICT SEAT WERE ENGAGED BY AN UNKNOWN SIZE NVA/VC FORCES IN A COMBINED MORTAR/GROUND ATTACK THAT LEFT THE TERRITORIALS WITH 15 KILLED, SEVEN WOUNDED, AND TWO MISSING. NVA/VC LOSSES WERE 12 KILLED. ON FEB 23 A REGIONAL FORCE COMPANY CONFIDENTIAL

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MOVING TO CLEAR A ROADBLOCK ON QL 20 (ROAD TO DALAT) WAS AMBUSHED BY AN NVA/VC FORCE 15 KMS NORTHEAST OF DINH QUAN VILLAGE. THE GVN FORCE LOST SEVEN KILLED AND SIX WOUNDED WHILE THE NVA/VC FORCE LOST SIX KILLED.

9. ICCS: THERE WAS ONE OBSERVATION IN ICCS REGION V THIS WEEK. ON FEB 19, IRANIAN AND INDONESIAN DELEGATIONS OBSERVED THE DAMAGE TO THE PHU HOA BRIDGE IN BINH DUONG CITED ABOVE.

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 IO-10 AID-05 ACDA-05 MC-02 NIC-01 /092 W

----- 062479

R 261030Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3045

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USDEL JEC PARIS
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
USIA WASHDC
AMCONSUL NHA TRANG
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CG FMFPAC
CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USLO PEKING

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USIA FOR IBS/NCA
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART VIII - MR IV

1. MILITARY SITUATION: (A) OVERALL SECURITY: DELTA MILITARY ACTIVITY DECLINED TO THE LOWEST LEVEL SINCE LATE NOVEMBER, BUT GVN UNITS CONTINUED TO OPERATE AGGRESSIVELY IN AN EFFORT TO KEEP VC/NVA OFF BALANCE AND FORESTALL FUTURE INCREASED ACTIVITY. MOST NVA/VC-INITIATED ACTIVITY CONSISTED OF ABF'S AND HARASSMENTS. SEVERL MR4 SENIOR STAFF MEMBERS BELIEVE NVA/VC ARE MAINTAINING LOW PROFILE UNTIL AFTER US CONGRESS CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO RVN. CORPS REPORTS 280 NVA/VC-INITIATED INCIDENTS (319 LAST WEEK) CONSISTING OF 11 GROUND ATTA CKS (12), 5 INFILTRATIONS (5), 164 ATTACKS BY FIRE (187), 67 HARASSMENTS (88), 5 SABOTAGE (10) AND 28 TERRORIST INCIDENTS (15). LOSSES ON BOTH SIDES ROSE SLIGHTLY, DUE IN PART TO GVN OPERATIONS IN NORTHERN KIEN GIANG AND CHAU DOC PROVINCES. GVN LOSSES WERE 96 KIA (88), 548 WIA (461), 28 MIA (14), NO CREW-SERVED (1) AND 72 INDIVIDUAL (40) WEAPONS LOST. CORPS CLAIMS 692 NVA/VC KILLED (500), 52 PRIOSONERS AND SUSPECTS CAPTURED (47), AND 25 CREW-SERVED (17) AND 197 INDIVIDUAL (130) WEAPONS SEIZED.

(B). NORTHERN DELTA: IN DINH TUONG PROVINCE, GVN OPERATIONS IN NORTHERN HAU MY DISTRICT HAVE APPARENTLY CAUSED NVA/VC TO SHIFT MAJOR SUPPLY EFFORTS TO INFILTRATION ROUTE 1-B, WHICH RUNS THROUGH BEN TRANH (D). A VILLAGE OFFICE THERE WAS OVERUN (SINCE RETAKEN) AND THE DISTRICT TOWN WAS SHELLLED WITH 15 ROUNDS CAUSING NO CASUALTIES. THE WATER PURIFICATION PLANT AT ICCS REGION VI HQ IN MY THO WAS BLOW UP ON FEB 25 NEARBY GVN SECTOR FUEL DUMP. ABOUT HALF THE SECTOR'S FUEL RESERVE WAS DESTROYED. 5 MORTAR ROUNDS FELL IN AND AROUND A SCHOOL IN CAI LAY (D) KILLING 2 RF AND 1 STUDENT AND WOUNDING 10 STUDENTS AND 2 OTHER CIVILIANS. IN KIEN TUONG PROVINCE, ELEMENTS OF THE 14TH ARVN REGIMENT RECAPTURED BINH CHAU HAMLET AND OB JUST SOUTH OF THE ELEPHANTS FOOT AND GVN UNITS NOW OPERATING THERE ARE PROVIDING ARTILLERY SUPPORT FOR LONG KHOT BASE AND TUYEN BINH DISTRICT TOWN. A HELICOPTER EVACUATING WOUNDED FROM THE AREA WAS SHOT DOWN, KILLING FOUR CREW MEMBERS. TUYEN NHON AND TUYEN BINH DISTRICT TOWNS AND MOC HOA WERE ALL MORTARED. THE ROUNDS IN MOC HOA DESTROYED ABOUT HALF OF A HOUSING COMPLEX IN THE TPJMC
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COMPOUND (#)

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DISTRICTS. A
BRIDGE ON ROUTE 30 JUST WEST OF CAO LANH WAS DAMAGED BY SAPPERS, BUT REPAIRED IN 12 HOURS, WHILE CONTACT WITH AN OB 3 KM NE OF KIEN VAN DISTRICT TOWN HAS BEEN LOST. 2 OTHER GVN POSITIONS AROUND KIEN VAN CAME UNDER GROUND ATTACK RESULTING IN LIGHT GVN CASUALTIES. IN CHAU DOC PROVINCE, RF UNITS KILLED 50 NVA/VC WHILE SUFFERING 5 WOUNDED IN A SERIES OF 9 CONTACTS ON A MOUNTAIN NEAR THE CAMBODIAN BORDER IN TINH BIEN (D).

C. CENTRAL DELTA: IN KIEN HOA PROVINCE, BEN TRE AND HAM LONG DISTRICT TOWN WERE MORTARED WITH NO CASUALTIES OR DAMAGE. ALL OTHER NVA/VC-INITIATED ACTIVITY CONSISTED OF HARASSMENTS OR TERRORIST INCIDENTS. SECTOR CONTINUES TO CONDUCT OPERATIONS ON THE DON NHON/MO CAY AND GIONG TROM/PHUOC HUNG DISTRICT BORDERS, BUT NVA/VC UNITS HAS AVOIDED CONTACT. IN VINH BINH PROVINCE, THERE WERE NO GROUND ATTACKS AND ONLY LIGHT CASUALTIES ON BOTH SIDES RESULTING FROM SMALL UNIT CONTACTS. THE SITUATION IN VINH LONG PROVINCE REMAINED STABLE WITH A DROP IN ACTIVITY

NEAR THE END OF THE WEEK. SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS CONSISTED MOSTLY OF LIGHT SHELLINGS OF GVN OB'S AND SMALL UNIT CONTACTS. NEW PROVINCE CHIEF COL LE TRUNG THANH HAS ESTABLISHED PRIORITY GOALS AS RAISING MORALE AND STRENGTH OF COMBAT UNITS AND UNDERTAKING AN OFFENSIVE CAMPAIGN TO RETAKE AREAS RECENTLY LOST TO THE OTHER SIDE. SITUATION IN SA DEC PROVINCE CONTINUED TO DETERIORATE THROUGH THE WEEK DUE TO LACK GVN RESPONSE TO LOW LEVEL VC ACTIVITY WHICH LED TO DECREASED SECURITY IN DUC TON (D). A VILLAGE OFFICE WAS MORTARED AND A WATCHTOWER ABANDONED THERE DURING THE WEEK, AND 1200 QUANG TIN REFUGEES RESETTLED THERE HAVE MOVED FROM THEIR (#)

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HTET OFFICES AND A VILLAGE OFFICE WERE ATTACKED, AND A BRIDGE ON ROUTE 23 DAMAGED BY MINES. ALTHOUGH GVN FORCES HAVE OVERWHELMING NUMERICAL SUPERIORITY IN SA DEC, THEY HAVE SO FAR BEEN UNABLE TO ESTABLISH SIGNIFICANT CONTACT WITH NVA/VC UNITS. ACTIVITY IN PHONG DINH PROVINCE WAS VERY LIGHT. IN KIEN GIANG PROVINCE, ELEMENTS OF THE 9TH ARMORED CAVALRY SQUADRON AND 32ND ARVN REGIMENT CONTACTED ELEMENTS OF V19 TRANSPORTATION BATTALION/195 NVA TRANSPORTATION GROUP AND K-6 INDEPENDENT BATTALION 14 KM NORTH OF RACH GIA ON INFILTRATION ROUTE 1C. WITH AIR AND ARTILLERY SUPPORT, 90 NVA/VC WERE REPORTEDLY KILLED AND 7 RF WOUNDED. NVA SUPPLY CACHES IN BORDER AREA ALSO REPORTEDLY DESTROYED BY EFFECTIVE AIR STRIKES.

D. SOUTHERN DELTA: IN BA XUYEN PROVINCE, THE ONLY SIGNIFICANT NVA/VC PRESSURE WAS ON HOA VAN (V), HOA TU (D) WHICH WAS SHELLED 8 TIMES WOUNDING 3 RF. A BATTALION OF THE 10TH ARVN REGIMENT HAS BEEN SENT TO THE AREA FOR SUPPORT. ALSO IN HOA TU (D), A GROUP OF BOATS FROM THE 74TH RIVER (#)

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PAOVIEU CITY

AND PROVINCE TOWNS TO STUDY MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN PREPARATION FOR MARCH ATTACKS. IN CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE, 4 CIVILIANS WERE KILLED AND 25 WOUNDED IN A SHELLING OF DINH AN (V), KIEN HUNG (D) ON ROUTE 12 FROM VI THANH TO RACH GIA. IN AN XUYEN PROVINCE, GVN TROOPS RETOOK TAN LOC (V), QUAN LONG (D), WHICH WAS LOST IN EARLY JANUARY. TERRITORIAL FORCE UNITS ARE ALSO COOPERATING WITH AVAILABLE ARVN UNITS TO TARGET THREE KEY AREAS IN AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE AN XUYEN'S POOR SECURITY SITUATION. THE AREAS ARE CAI TAU IN SOUTHEAST THOI BINH (D), CHA LA IN EASTERN DAM DOI (D). AND DAM DOI DISTRICT TOWN .

2. ICCS ACTIVITIES: ICCS REGION VI RECEIVED COMPLAINTS OF 13 CEASE FIRE VIOLATIONS AND CONDUCTED 3 OBSERVATIONS. REGION VII REPORT IS NOT AVAILABLE. IN RESPONSE TO HUNGARIAN COMPLAINTS REGARDING SECURITY OF THE 5 ICCS TEAMSITES IN REGION VII, COMMANDER OF INDONESIAN DELEGATION TO ICCS CONDUCTED INSPECTION OF SITES FEBRUARY 24 AND FOUND SECURITY SATISFACTORY IN ALL CASES.
MARTIN

NOTE BY OC/T: (#) OMISSION, CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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Disposition Authority: buchantr
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